

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Korea

DATE DISTR. 22 MAY 50 50X1-HUM

SUBJECT North Korean Air Force

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE  
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

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1. [redacted] a large-scale extension of the airstrip and the hangar installations at Hungnam (127-33, 39-52) was being made. At the same time, Hwado (127-34, 39-45), a small island in the vicinity, was being developed as a joint navy and air force base. A few (number unspecified) fighter planes from the USSR were at Hungnam and more were expected.

2. [redacted] at Pyongyang Airfield there were 5 transport planes in addition to the 30 fighter planes regularly stationed there. The trainers were in daily use.

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3. [redacted] the total number of planes in the air force is about 180. Of these, however, 50-60 are inoperable and about 90 are seldom used; the 30 planes which were purchased from the USSR [redacted] are in steady use. Planes leave the field with a minimum gas supply, and a Soviet-trained pilot accompanies each flight.

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4. [redacted] the USSR promised the North Korean authorities 100 planes; 46 of these were to be sent to Pyongyang, and 38 to Hamhung (127-32, 39-54).

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5. [redacted] approximately 20 planes of the North Korean air force at Pyongyang engaged in daily maneuvers, practicing combat techniques.

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Class. Changed To:	TS S C	
Auth:	MM 70-2	
Date:	14 Jun 1970	By: